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"DOCTOR WHO"

SERIAL 6D

EPISODE 4: 'Snake Dance'

by

Christopher Bailey

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"DOCTOR WHO" - EPISODE 4: 'Snake Dance'

CAST:

THE DOCTOR  
NYSSA  
TEGAN  
LON  
AMBRIL  
TANHA  
CHELA  
DOJJEN  
X CANIVAL VOICE OF MARA  
DUGDALE

NON-SPEAKING:

FOUR WORTHIES (GUESTS IN EP.2)  
PEOPLE IN MARKET PLACE (INC CHILDREN)  
BODYGUARD  
DEMONS

ANIMAL:  
SNAKE

\* \* \* \* \*

SETS:

Ext. Market Place (including  
Ext. Fortune Teller's Booth  
Ext. Lane Between Booths)

Cave Composite: Int. Hidden Chamber  
Int. Main Cave  
Int. Tunnel  
Ext. Cavemouth

Int. Ambril's Room  
Int. Corridor

\* \* \* \* \*

TELAFINE:

Ext. Among the Rocks (edged by desert)

\* \* \* \* \*

4/24: VIS:  
4/43: VIS:  
4/48: AUD: VIC:  
4/51: }  
4/53: AUD:  
4/55: - 4/56: AUD:

"DOCTOR WHO"

SERIAL 6D

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SUPOSE CAM

Opening  
Titles:

REPRISE THEN:

1. INT. CORRIDOR. DAY.

(THE BODYGUARDS, MASSIVE,  
BLOCK THE CORRIDOR,  
WEAPONS AT THE READY.

TANHA RUSHES IN)

TANHA: (SHOCKED) No! You can't  
do that!

LON: And why not?

TANHA: It's preposterous to think  
anyone is plotting against you.  
Least of all these people.

THE DOCTOR: Your mother is right.

LON: (SNAPS) I would expect you to say that.

THE DOCTOR: My only concern is for Tegan and the Great Crystal.

AMBRIL: (ENTERS CORRIDOR) And why should the Crystal concern you?

THE DOCTOR: (INDICATES GUARD) If I'm allowed to live long enough, I'll explain.

TELECINE 1A:

Ext. Among the Rocks.  
Day.

DOJJEN sits as  
before.

2. EXT. MARKET (OUTSIDE FORTUNE TELLER'S BOOTH). DAY.

(A LITTLE BOY LOOKS ON.

STANDS NEXT TO HIS MOTHER, AMONGST A FEW BYSTANDERS.

THEY'RE WATCHING AS THE LONG PAINTED CLOTH THAT MAKES UP THE BODY SECTION OF THE CEREMONIAL SNAKE IS UNROLLED ONTO THE GROUND.

Note: The Ceremonial Snake is a massive body stocking worn by one person. The head is of papier-mache, with an elaborate, gawdy crystal in its mouth.)

3. INT. CAVE (HIDDEN CHAMBER) DARK.

(DUDGALE, EYES RIVETED,  
UNBLINKING, LOOKS ON)

TEGAN: Puzzling isn't it! How can  
it be happening! Can you  
believe your eyes! You have  
no choice. Dream on, Showman!  
I shall soon be triumphant.

4. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

THE DOCTOR: (SHOCKED) You must not do that!

(THEY STAND, WITH THE BODYGUARD BETWEEN AND SLIGHTLY BEHIND THEM.

THE OTHER HAS MOVED DEEPER INTO THE ROOM.

AMBRIL HOLDS A SMALL CHEST)

TANHA: And why not?

LON: (INTERRUPTS) Mother!

TANHA: (WAVES THIS ASIDE) No. No. I think the man is entitled to his say, however preposterous.

(TO DOCTOR)

But, of course we can do it, and the Director has agreed.

(TO AMBRIL)

Haven't you?

AMBRIL: The Great Crystal (INDICATES CHEST) will be restored to its rightful place during the Ceremony.



- 4/7 -

THE DOCTOR: (TO LON, CONCERNED)  
But why?

LON: Why what?

THE DOCTOR: Why did you request  
it?

(TO AMBRIL)

And why did he agree?

TANHA: Why not? It is actually  
one of the few advantages  
of being a member of the  
Federator's family. As a  
general rules, one's whims do  
tend to be indulged.

CHELA: (BURSTS OUT) But it's  
forbidden. It's forbidden by a  
tradition going back five hundred  
years.

LON: Is that why you proposed  
to assassinate me?

TANHA: I'd thought we had cleared  
that up.

THE DOCTOR: Who said we wanted to  
assassinate you?

(GLANCE AT LON)

LON: I am not here to be  
questioned by you.

(IN SPITE OF HIS  
ASSURED RESPONSE,  
LON SURREPTITIOUSLY  
PULLS AT HIS GLOVE.  
THIS THE DOCTOR  
CLOCKS)

THE DOCTOR: No, of course not.  
How foolish of me. (WITH AN ~~AM~~ )  
I've been very stupid.

(THE CHANGE OF TONE  
CAUSES NYSSA TO  
LOOK AT THE DOCTOR)

Do you remember me telling you,  
Nyssa? On the Kinda world.  
The mark of the Mara. I should  
have realised.

(LON SMILES, KNOWS  
THE DOCTOR KNOWS)

LON: They'd never believe you.

TANHA: What are you two  
talking about?

THE DOCTOR: (TO LON) Where is  
Tegan? What have you done with  
her?

TANHA: Tegan?

(TO LON)

Who is Tegan?

LON: Another of the Doctor's  
companions, who apparently,  
he has lost.

TANHA: But why is he asking  
you?

LON: How should I know Mother.  
The man is a fool.

THE DOCTOR: (EYES ON LON)  
You'll never succeed. In  
the end, evil never does.

TANHA: (THOROUGHLY CONFUSED)  
Lon, what does he mean, 'evil'?  
Who is evil?

LON: (TURNS TO HER) Oh, I am  
Mother. Isn't it obvious?  
Your son is evil.

TANHA: But?!

LON: After all, why else would  
they want to kill me? Don't  
you see?

TANHA: I most certainly do!

(TO BODYGUARD)

Take them away! Take all of them  
away!

LON: No! (BODYGUARD STOPS)  
I think we can afford to be  
generous. On today of all days.  
At least let them see the Great  
Crystal. Just once. Just for  
a moment. Don't you think?

AMBRIL: (PROTESTS) My Lord.

LON: (SNAPS) Indulge me!(cont...)

(TANHA SIGNALS TO THE  
BODYGUARD, WHO BRINGS  
THEM FORWARD. THE  
DOCTOR CATCHES  
NYSSA'S EYE)

LON: (cont) That's close enough.

(TO AMBRIL)

Right.

AMBRIL: Shall I?

LON: If you wouldn't mind.

(AMBRIL LIFTS THE  
LID)

THE DOCTOR: Now!

(THE DOCTOR AND NYSSA  
EACH GRAB ONE OF  
THE ARMS OF THE  
BODYGUARD NEAREST  
TO THEM AND JERK HIM  
FORWARD INTO LON  
AND TANHA.)

AMBRIL STANDS.

CHELA MOVES TOWARDS  
THE CHEST.

THE SECOND BODYGUARD  
DRAWS HIS SWORD)

(TO CHELA) No! There isn't time!  
Not now! Come on!

(THE TRIO RUSH OUT  
OF THE ROOM.

AMBRIL LOOKS AT THE  
SPRAWL OF BODIES.

LON CLIMBS TO HIS  
FEET)

LON: Don't just stand there!  
After them!

AMBRIL: Me?

LON: Yes, you. (INDICATES SECOND  
BODYGUARD) And take that fool  
with you.

AMBRIL: (DOUBTFULLY) Very well  
my lord.

(HE PUTS DOWN THE  
CHEST, AND GOES  
'AFTER THEM'.)

FIRST BODYGUARD CLIMBS  
TO HIS FEET)

LON: Well, off you go.

(SADLY THE GUARD  
STRAIGHTENS VARIOUS  
BITS OF HIS ARMOUR.

LON WATCHES AMUSED)

TANHA: Please help me, Lon.

(HE HELPS HIS MOTHER  
TO HER FEET)

Shouldn't we call out the guard...  
or something.

LON: No. It doesn't matter.  
What can they do now? I have the  
Great Crystal. (cont...)

- 4/12 -

(LON GETS THE CRYSTAL  
OUT OF THE CHEST,  
AND HOLDS IT UP)

LON: (cont) And everything is  
prepared! Look!

(THE CRYSTAL IS THE  
SIZE OF A LARGE  
ORANGE, HEAVY,  
AND UNSPECTACULAR  
LOOKING)

5. INT. CAVE (MAIN CHAMBER) DAY.

(THE BAS-RELIEF SNAKE  
HEAD WITH THE EMPTY  
SOCKET, INTO WHICH  
THE CRYSTAL WILL FIT.

PULL BACK, AND TRAVEL  
SLOWLY DOWN THE LENGTH  
OF THE BODY - TOWARDS  
THE TAIL, AND THE  
APPARENTLY SOLID ROCK  
OF THE HIDDEN CHAMBER  
ENTRANCE)

6. EXT. MARKET. DAY.

(THE DOCTOR, NYSSA,  
AND CHELA RUN  
THROUGH)

CHELA: (RUNNING) Where are we  
going?

THE DOCTOR: To find Tegan.

CHELA: You don't even know if he  
is still alive.

THE DOCTOR: Tegan won't die  
until the Mara within her is  
free.

NYSSA: If Lon has been infected  
by the Mara, why hasn't he changed?

THE DOCTOR: Same reason as Tegan.  
He still has a lot of his own  
personality.

CHELA: But he is influenced.

THE DOCTOR: Very much so.



7. INT. CAVE (MAIN CHAMBER)

(THE BASE OF THE  
FIGURE.

APPARENTLY SOLID  
ROCK. GO THROUGH IT  
TO:)

8. INT. CAVE (HIDDEN CHAMBER) DARK.

(DUGDALE LOOKS ON.

BEADS OF SWEAT,  
MESMORISED.

TEGAN LAUGHS HORRIBLY.

SHE LOOKS DOWN AT  
HER ARM. IT IS  
ENCASED IN SNAKE)

9. EXT. MARKET (LANE BETWEEN STALLS) DAY.

THE DOCTOR: Quickly. Down here.

(THEY DUCK INTO THE  
LANE, AND HALT TO  
GET THEIR BREATH. IT'S  
DARKISH, SHADOWED.

CHELA DOUBLED OVER.  
GETS HIS BREATH)

CHELA: It's alright. If we  
were being followed, we've  
managed to lose them. So I  
think.

(THE CLACKING OF  
MARRACCAS  
INTERRUPTS HIM.

A BLACK DEMON  
STEPS OUT OF THE  
SHADOWS NEARBY.  
THEY JUMP OUT OF  
THEIR SKINS)

10. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

(LON CLUTCHES THE  
CRYSTAL.

AMBRIL RETURNS)

LON: Well?

AMBRIL: No sign, my lord. I'm  
afraid they seem to have ...  
'got away'.

LON: Do they!

AMBRIL: I've issued the  
necessary orders. A search  
party is being organised.

LON: (OFF HAND) It doesn't  
matter. What can they do now?

AMBRIL: As you wish.

(BUT HE STANDS  
HIS GROUND)

LON: Well?

AMBRIL: I would only wish,  
my lord, to remind you -

LON: (QUICKLY GLANCES AT TANHA)  
I've not forgotten.

AMBRIL: (PERSISTS) Our  
arrangement?

LON: (IS SHE LISTENING?) Yes.

AMBRIL: You promised my lord.  
Immediately after the Ceremony -

LON: Go away!

(AMBRIL DOES)

TANHA: What arrangement Lon?  
What did you promise?

LON: Nothing mother. It  
doesn't matter.

TANHA: (REPROVING) Lon!  
(GOES OVER TO HIM) Let me look  
at you I know you! (PLAYFULLY)  
You're planning something. Is  
it a surprise?

LON: Yes mother.

TANHA: Look me in the eyes.

(SHE TAKES HIS  
HANDS, LOOKS  
DOWN, NOTICES  
THE GLOVES)

Yes, it's to be a surprise!

11. EXT. MARKET (LANE BETWEEN STALLS) DAY

(CHELA IS LAUGHING -  
RELEASE OF TENSION.

THE 'DEMON' STANDS  
THERE, HAND OUTSTRETCHED..

BUCKET OF WATER  
TO HAND.

THE DOCTOR AND  
NYSSA DON'T UNDERSTAND)

CHELA: I'm sorry, Doctor.  
It was just the surprise.

(DEMON RATTLES MARRACCAS)

THE DOCTOR: What's going on?

CHELA: You've been 'touched'  
by an attendant demon. You  
must forfeit a coin. It's  
the custom I'm afraid.

THE DOCTOR: The custom?

CHELA: On the day of the  
Ceremony, the Attendant Demons  
seek out the Unwary. Anyone  
they 'touch' with Evil must  
pay up or ...

THE DOCTOR: Or what?

CHELA: Have water tipped over  
their heads. It's part of  
the fun.

(DEMON REACHES FOR  
WATER)

THE DOCTOR: (QUICKLY) But we haven't got any money.

CHELA: Here you are!

(HANDS MONEY TO  
DEMON)

'May you never feel the  
Serpent's Tooth'.

(THE DEMON NODS  
SATISFIED.

AND GOES)

THE DOCTOR: (WATCHES IT GO)  
If only it was that easy!

NYSSA: Doctor, what are we  
going to do?

THE DOCTOR: (TURNS TO CHELA)  
How long have we got? When is the  
actual ceremony due to begin?

CHELA: First the Great Snake  
is taken in procession through  
the streets, before going  
up to the cave -

THE DOCTOR: (INTERRUPTS) How  
long?

CHELA: A few hours.

THE DOCTOR: I wonder ...

CHELA: What?

THE DOCTOR: If there's still  
time. There must be. There  
has to be. It's our only  
hope. Come on!

CHELA: Where are we going?

THE DOCTOR: Change of plan:  
To find Dojjen.



12. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

TANHA: (INSISTS LON REMOVES GLOVE)  
But if it's nothing, why won't  
you let me look at it?

LON: I've told you. It's just  
a scratch.

TANHA: But it could become  
infected. Lon, how did it  
happen? Why didn't you tell  
me?

LON: It was an accident.

TANHA: What kind of accident?  
Lon. I just would like to  
check.

LON: (PULLS AWAY, VIOLENTLY)  
For the last time, mother.  
Leave me alone.

(TANHA'S FACE)

13. EXT. THE MARKET. DAY.

(THE FACES OF  
THE BYSTANDERS, LAUGHING,  
EXPECTANT.

THE CEREMONIAL SNAKE  
IS DANCING THROUGH  
THE MARKET, ATTENDED  
BY ITS TWO DEMONS,  
WHO COLLECT THE  
COINS THROWN BY  
THE CROWD.

SMALL BELLS ATTACHED  
TO THE ANKLES AND  
KNEES OF THE  
DANCERS.

{ THE VOICE OF THE  
MARA - A MAN WITH  
TIN MEGAPHONE -  
WALKS SOLEMNLY  
ALONGSIDE.

A FESTIVE, CROWDED  
STREET SCENE)

14. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKEMOUTH)

(THE DOCTOR AND  
NYSSA ON TOP  
OF THE ROCK WALL,  
AT THE BACK OF  
THE PATH.

CHELA DOWN BELOW.

THE DOCTOR REACHING  
DOWN TO HELP  
CHELA UP)

THE DOCTOR: (TO CHELA) Come  
on!

(CHELA STANDS HIS  
GROUND)

CHELA: If you'd let me steel  
the Great Crystal, this trek  
wouldn't be necessary.

THE DOCTOR: It's not as simple  
as that!

NYSSA: Why not?

THE DOCTOR: We wouldn't be  
preventing the Mara's Return,  
only postponing it. Because  
the Mara would continue to  
exist. As a mental force.  
In the Dark Places of the inside.  
No, this time, we must destroy  
it. Completely!

NYSSA: But how?

THE DOCTOR: I don't know.

NYSSA: But you think Dojjen  
will be able to tell us?

THE DOCTOR: I hope so.

CHELA: But Dojjen hasn't  
been seen for ten years! He  
could be anywhere. Assuming  
he's still alive.

THE DOCTOR: You're forgetting.  
We do have this! (THE SMALL  
CRYSTAL)

CHELA: How will that help  
to find him?

THE DOCTOR: It won't ... But  
it will help him to find us.  
Trust me.

(CHELA TAKES THE  
DOCTOR'S HAND  
AND IS PULLED UP)

15. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

(AMBRIL'S STANDS IN  
THE DOORWAY, CARRYING  
A FOLDED COSTUME.

HE COUGHS DISCREETLY.

TANHA IS STANDING,  
BACK TO US. LOOKING  
OUT OF THE WINDOW,  
SULKING)

LON: What is it?

AMBRIL: I've taken the liberty  
of bringing the costume you  
must wear for the ceremony.

LON: Oh good! Look mother!

(SHE DOESN'T REACT)

AMBRIL: It is in fact an  
exact replica, correct in  
every detail, of the clothes  
worn by your ancestor, the  
Founder of the Federation,  
when he destroyed the Mara  
five hundred years ago.

LON: How very appropriate!

AMBRIL: In what way my lord?  
(PUZZLED)

LON: Don't you think so  
mother? (NO REACTION) Well,  
I shall go and try it on.  
(TO TANHA) Are you coming?

(TANHA DOESN'T MOVE.  
LON SHRUGS HIS  
SHOULDERS, PICKS UP  
THE CHEST CONTAINING  
THE CRYSTAL AND  
GOES OUT.

TANHA CONTINUES TO  
STARE OUT OF THE  
WINDOW)

TELECINE 2:

Ext. Among The Rocks. Day.

CHELA: How far are we going?

THE DOCTOR looking around,  
choosing his spot.

THE DOCTOR: Here should be fine.

He removes the crystal  
from around his neck  
and sits down.

NYSSA: Now what?

THE DOCTOR: Sympathetic Resonance.

NYSSA: Doctor?

THE DOCTOR: Thought directed  
at this crystal should set up  
a resonance that is picked up  
and echoed by another.

CHELA: So?

THE DOCTOR: The Snakedancers  
wear these, don't they?

CHELA: So I gather.

NYSSA: Of course! The Crystal  
will act like a radio wave.

THE DOCTOR: Only transmitting  
my thoughts instead of words.

CHELA: Establishing a mental  
link?

THE DOCTOR: Hopefully.

CHELA: But will it work?

THE DOCTOR: Let's try.

THE DOCTOR concentrates,  
and the crystal glows  
blue and sings.

And fades. THE DOCTOR  
opens his eyes.

NYSSA: Well?

THE DOCTOR: Now we wait?



16. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

(TANHA TURNS BACK  
FROM THE WINDOW.)

AMBRIL LOST IN  
HIS OWN DOUBTS)

TANHA: Do you have any children,  
Ambril?

AMBRIL: No, my lady, I'm afraid  
not.

TANHA: You are very sensible.  
You have your objects. An  
object lasts. You hold it  
in your hands, and it belongs  
to you. Children can be very  
disappointing in that respect.  
Don't you think so?

AMBRIL: ... My lady, Tanha,  
I really don't know ...

TANHA: I do.

TELECINE 3:

Ext. Among The Rocks. Day.

NYSSA scans the surrounding  
area.

NYSSA: Nothing.

CHELA: He's not coming.

THE DOCTOR: Be patient.

17. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

(LON STANDS IN THE  
DOORWAY. RESPLENDANT  
IN THE SKY-HERO  
COSTUME. AN ENTRANCE)

LON: Mother?

TANHA: Let me look at you.

LON: Am I forgiven?

TANHA: What? ... Oh, yes of  
course. Aren't you always.  
Come here.

LON: Well ... what do you  
think?

TANHA: It looks splendid.  
It fits exactly. (TO AMBRIL)  
Don't you think so?

AMBRIL: A remarkable fit, my  
lady. Really remarkable.

TANHA: Lon, let me look at  
you. I'm going to be so  
proud.

18. EXT. MARKET. DAY.

(THROUGH THE FESTIVE  
PEOPLE, THE CEREMONIAL  
SNAKE DANCES ON)

TELECINE 4:

Ext. Among the Rocks.  
Edged By Desert. Day..

CHELA, THE DOCTOR and  
NYSSA sit waiting.

CHELA: If what you say is  
true, why didn't Dojjen  
destroy the Great Crystal  
when he was still Director?  
He had it in his charge.

THE DOCTOR: Good question!  
Nyssa asked exactly the  
same thing.

CHELA: Well?

THE DOCTOR: I don't know.  
Perhaps we will find that  
out too.

The Crystal around the  
Doctor's neck starts  
to glow blue.

NYSSA: Doctor!

They turn. The figure  
of a snake dancer  
(DOJJEN) stands there,  
motionless, staff in  
hand, silhouetted  
against the sun.

The Crystal in the  
pendant around his neck  
glows brightly blue.

NYSSA: Dojjen! Doctor, it's  
worked. He's come!

19. INT. AMBRIL'S ROOM. DAY.

(FLURRY AND LAST-MINUTE HITCH AS TANHA MAKES ADJUSTMENTS TO LON'S COSTUME.

AMBRIL AT HAND WITH PINS IN HIS MOUTH)

TANHA: (TO LON) Keep still!

LON: Mother!

TANHA: Lon please. You're not helping. I've nearly finished.

(SHE TAKES PINS OUT OF AMBRIL'S MOUTH)

AMBRIL: My lady, we should have set off. The schedule dictates -

TANHA: I am full aware of what the schedule dictates. But if the thing is going to be done, it is going to be done properly. Keep still.

(SHE PINS WHATEVER)

Right. Finished. All done! Now we can go!

TELECINE 5:

Ext. Amongst the Rocks.  
Edged by Desert. Day.

CHELA and NYSSA stand,  
to one side, looking  
down on ...

THE DOCTOR and DOJJEN  
who sit, formally,  
facing each other,  
meeting each other's  
gaze. Five feet apart.

Then, slowly, DOJJEN  
reaches into a small  
sack at his feet, and  
pulls out a snake.

It writhes in his hands.  
He lifts it up and  
lets it bite him.

Then he holds it out  
to THE DOCTOR who  
stretches out his  
hands to take it.

NYSSA: Doctor! No! What  
are you doing!

THE DOCTOR: (HOLDS DOJJEN'S  
EYES) I'm afraid there's no  
choice. If we are to have  
any hope of saving Tegan.

NYSSA: But it's bite could  
be deadly.

THE DOCTOR: Yes, I know!

THE DOCTOR takes the snake and, keeping his eyes meeting DOJJEN'S applies the snake to his own wrist.

C.U. As it bites him as he winces.



20. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE. (SNAKEMOUTH)  
DAY.

(PEOPLE CLAP AND  
THROW STREAMERS.

THEY LINE BOTH SIDES  
OF THE PATH LEADING  
FROM THE TOP OF THE  
STEPS, ALONG TOWARDS  
THE CAVE ENTRANCE  
ITSELF. MANY OF THEM  
HOLD LANTERNS. (THE  
SAME AS PURCHASED  
BY LON AND AMBRIL  
IN EPISODE 3)

THEY'RE GREETING LON  
AND PARTY WHO'VE  
ARRIVED AT THE TOP  
OF THE STEPS.

LON LEADS THE WAY,  
FOLLOWED BY TANHA,  
AMBRIL AND FOUR LOCAL  
MANUSSAN WORTHIES.

THEY PASS ON, BETWEEN  
THE LINES OF PEOPLE  
WHO CLAP, HOLD OUT  
HANDS TO BE SHAKEN  
ETC. - AND ON TOWARDS  
THE CAVE)

TELECINE 6:

Ext. Among the Rocks.  
Edged by Desert. Day.

C.U. THE DOCTOR, as the  
venom takes effect.

DOJJEN still calm  
voice in THE DOCTOR'S  
head.

DOJJEN: No. Look into my  
eyes! You have come this  
far. You must not now give  
in to fear. Look!

THE DOCTOR does so.  
His P.O.V. of DOJJEN  
slips out of focus,  
resolving itself into  
three lights (DOJJEN'S  
two EYES and the blue-  
glowing crystal around  
his neck) In a blur.  
The three lights start  
to revolve.

THE DOCTOR: (V.O. TO HIMSELF)  
It's the poison. The effect  
of the poison!

DOJJEN: (V.O.) Fear is the  
only poison.

THE DOCTOR: (NOT UNDERSTANDING)  
Fear is ...?

DOJJEN: (V.O.) Ask your  
question!

THE DOCTOR: (WITH DIFFICULTY)  
How ... how can ... I must  
save Tegan. It was my fault.  
Fault. So how can ...  
destroyed. How can ... the  
Mara ... It was my fault ...  
(PETERS OUT)

DOJJEN: (V.O. URGENTLY)  
Steady your mind. Attach  
to nothing. Let go of your  
fear.

THE DOCTOR'S P.O.V.  
clears somewhat,  
resolving back into  
DOJJEN'S FACE, blurred  
but recognisable.

THE DOCTOR: What is the  
Snakedance?

DOJJEN: (V.O.) This is.  
Here and now. The dance  
goes on. It is all the dance.  
Everywhere and always. So,  
find the "Still Point".  
Only then can the Mara be  
defeated.

THE DOCTOR: (TO HIMSELF.  
PUZZLED) The "Still Point?"  
A point of safety? A place  
in the Chamber somewhere?  
Where -

DOJJEN: (V.O.) No! The  
"Still Point" is within your-  
self. Nowhere else. To  
destroy the Mara you must  
find the Still Point ... point  
... point. Point ...

THE DOCTOR closes his  
eyes.

21. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER).

(A LINE OF CHAIRS  
FOR THE V.I.P.S  
(FOUR WORTHIES).  
AGAINST THE WALL AT  
THE OPPOSITE END OF  
THE CHAMBER FROM  
THE ENTRANCE.

AMBRIL, TANHA, LON  
AND THE WORTHIES  
STAND AROUND WAITING.  
THE BODYGUARD IN A  
CORNER. AN ATTENDANT  
HURRIES IN, AND  
WHISPERS IN AMBRIL'S  
EAR.

AMBRIL CARRIES THE  
CHEST)

AMBRIL: (TURNS TO TANHA) My  
lady, the Snake is on its  
way. If you'd like to take  
your seat.

TANHA: Certainly.

(THEY MOVE TO DO SO.  
AMBRIL A PRIVATE  
WORD WITH LON)

AMBRIL: My lord, the Crystal?

(LON LOOKS ROUND  
AT THE MARA BAS-  
RELIEF)

LON: I will tell you when.

AMBRIL: Very well my lord.

22. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE. (SNAKEMOUTH)  
DAY.

(THE PEOPLE LINE  
THE ROUTE, WAITING  
FOR THE CEREMONIAL  
SNAKE.

IT APPEARS AT THE  
TOP OF THE STEPS  
ACCOMPANIED BY ITS  
TWO ATTENDANT DEMONS  
- OUT OF HIERONYMOUS  
BOSCH - AND THE MAN  
| WITH THE TIN MEGAPHONE.

THE DEMONS SKIP  
AROUND COLLECTING  
UP COINS THROWN BY  
THE CROWD.

INCLUDING CUTAWAY  
OF A DEMON TAKING  
COIN FROM THE LITTLE  
BOY, WHO IS SOLEMNLY  
HOLDING IT OUT, BEING  
HELD UP BY HIS MOTHER.

THE SNAKE PROCEEDS  
TOWARDS THE ENTRANCE,  
THE PEOPLE BREAKING  
RANKS, AND FALLING  
IN BEHIND, WITH  
THEIR LANTERNS)

TELECINE 7:

Ext. Amongst The Rocks.  
(Edged by Desert) Day.

Is the Doctor dead?

NYSSA: Doctor!

THE DOCTOR opens his  
EYES.

NYSSA: Thank goodness. I  
thought for a moment ...

THE DOCTOR: Thought what?

THE DOCTOR looks down  
at the two tiny  
puncture marks on  
his arm. Rubs them  
ruefully.

THE DOCTOR: No, I've survived.

NYSSA: But how?

THE DOCTOR: I don't know.  
Somehow he saw me through!

DOJJEN sits there  
calmly.

CHELA: We must hurry!

THE DOCTOR: (GETS UP) Yes  
of course. The Ceremony.

NYSSA: But did you find out  
what you needed to know?

THE DOCTOR: (LOOKS AT DOJJEN)  
Yes, I think I did. We'll  
have to see. I just hope  
we're not going to be too  
late.

DOJJEN calmly watches  
them go.

23. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER)

(THE VIPS (FOUR  
WORTHIES) ARE SEATED  
ON THE ROW OF CHAIRS.  
AMBRIL IN THE CENTRE,  
LON ON HIS RIGHT HAND,  
TANHA ON HIS LEFT.  
THEY LOOK TOWARDS  
THE ENTRANCE.

THE CEREMONIAL SNAKE  
APPEARS, IT PROCESSES  
INTO THE MIDDLE OF  
THE CHAMBER AND HALTS.

THE PEOPLE FOLLOWING,  
FAN OUT ON BOTH SIDES,  
FORMING AN IMPROMPTU  
HORSESHOE, BEHIND  
AND AROUND THE SNAKE  
AND FACING THE CHAIRS.  
THEIR LANTERNS ARE  
LIT.

THE MUSICIANS FALL  
SILENT. THERE IS  
A PAUSE)



TELECINE 8:

Ext. Amongst The Rocks.  
Day.

A brief locating glimpse  
of THE DOCTOR, NYSSA  
and CHELA hurrying back.

24. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER).

(Note: The actual  
'Ceremony' should be  
done with the sort  
of light-hearted  
seriousness of, for  
instance, Morris  
Dancers or Mummers.  
General lighting dim;  
augmented by the  
lanterns held by the  
audience)

(THE MAN WITH THE TIN  
MEGAPHONE (THE CARNIVAL  
VOICE OF THE MARA)  
STEPS FORWARD)

VOICE OF MARA: (DECLAIMING)  
I speak here for the Mara!  
The Great Snake! The Father  
of Lies!

(PUNCTUATING CLACKING  
OF MARRACCAS FROM  
THE ATTENDANT DEMONS)

Its thoughts are black in my  
mind. Its words are bitter  
on my tongue. But I am too  
weak to resist!

(CLACKING)

We are all (INDICATES THE  
ONLOOKERS) too weak to  
resist!

(CLACKING)

It has brought  
confusion to our Minds!  
(cont ...)

*Cont:*

VOICE OF MARA: (cont) It has brought Darkness to our Hearts! It shows us our Death!

(CUTAWAY TO THE SMALL BOY, AMONGST THE ONLOOKERS, WATCHING, SAUCER-EYED)

Who can help us! Who dares face the Mara! Who will pluck the Crystal of Knowledge from between the Mara's jaws, and set us free!

(TANHA LEANS OVER AND NUDGES LON)

TANHA: Lon!

AMBRIL: No, my lady, not yet!

VOICE OF MARA: For the second time I ask it! (PUNCTUATION)  
For the final time -

(LON CALLS OUT AND STANDS UP)

LON: I will!

(THE ONLOOKERS CLAP)

VOICE OF MARA: Bring the Stranger forward! (cont ...)

(THE TWO DEMONS GO AND PULL LON FORWARD BEFORE THE CEREMONIAL SNAKE. HE CARRIES HIS RESPONSES WRITTEN ON A PIECE OF PAPER)

✓ VOICE OF MARA: (cont) You wish to challenge the Mara?

LON: I do!

(ONLOOKERS CLAP)

✓ VOICE OF MARA: In whose name do you dare to do so?

LON: In the Name of the Federation, and in my own.

(ONLOOKERS CLAP)

✓ VOICE OF MARA: Let the Stranger first prove his worthiness! Prepare him for the test.

(LON EXTENDS HIS HAND, THE UNMARKED ONE, AND THE DEMONS ROLL UP HIS SLEEVE)

Are you ready to face the triple temptation?

LON: I am ready.

✓ VOICE OF MARA: The first temptation to fear. I offer you Fear in a Handful of Dust.

(ONE OF THE DEMONS POURS DUST FROM A SKULL ONTO LON'S OUTSTRETCHED HAND)

LON: (REFERS TO PAPER) I  
do not fear. I spread my  
fingers, and the dust  
trickles away. (HE DOES)  
I know that whilst I live  
my hand is clean, my eyes  
are bright. That is enough.

(ONLOOKERS CLAP)

I claim the right to strike  
the first blow.

VOICE OF MARA: Stranger,  
you have earned it!

(LON SYMBOLICALLY  
STRIKES THE HEAD  
OF THE CEREMONIAL  
SNAKE.

ONLOOKERS CLAP)

25. EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE (SNAKEMOUTH)  
DAY.

(THE DOCTOR JUMPS  
FROM THE ROCKS  
ABOVE, DOWN ONTO  
THE PATH, AT THE  
TOP OF THE STEPS.

PICKS HIMSELF OFF  
THE GROUND, LOOKS  
UP TO CHELA AND  
NYSSA)

THE DOCTOR: Come on. Jump.

(NYSSA DOES.

THE DOCTOR CATCHES  
HER)

NYSSA: (STIFFLY) Thank you.  
But it wasn't necessary.

26. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER).

(LON STANDS, HAND  
UPSTRETCHED)

✓ VOICE OF MARA: The second  
temptation?

LON: I am ready.

✓ VOICE OF MARA: The second  
temptation is to Despair.  
I offer you Despair in a  
Withered Branch.

(THE OTHER DEMON  
PUTS A WITHERED  
BRANCH INTO LON'S  
HAND)

LON: (REFERS TO PAPER) I  
do not despair. I turn my  
hand, the branch drops to the  
earth. I know the sap will  
rise again, the roots will  
sprout. That is enough.

(ONLOOKERS CLAP)

I claim the right to strike  
a second blow.

✓ VOICE OF MARA: Stranger, you  
have earned it.

27. INT. CAVE. (JUST INSIDE ENTRANCE) DAY.

(THE SOUND OF CLAPPING  
ECHOING DOWN THE  
TUNNEL.)

THE DOCTOR, NYSSA  
AND CHELA RUN IN  
FROM OUTSIDE)

CHELA: The Ceremony must have  
started.

THE DOCTOR: Let's hope we're  
still in time.

NYSSA: No, Doctor, look!

(A BODYGUARD,  
FURTHER DOWN THE  
TUNNEL STEPS INTO  
VIEW, BARRING  
THEIR WAY)

CHELA: What do we do?  
Try to explain? An appeal  
to his reason?

(THE BODYGUARD STANDS  
THERE)

THE DOCTOR: I have the distinct  
feeling he wouldn't listen.



28. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER) DAY.

VOICE OF MARA: - 'third and final temptation is to succumb to Greed. Stranger you must gaze into the Crystal.

(INDICATES THE  
MOCK CRYSTAL IN  
THE MOUTH OF THE  
CEREMONIAL SNAKE)

without Greed for Knowledge.  
I offer you Greed in the  
Hidden Depths!'

(THE TWO DEMONS  
ESCORT LON FORWARD  
TO THE CEREMONIAL  
SNAKE.

HE GAZES AT THE  
CRYSTAL IN ITS  
MOUTH.

THEN REACHES OUT  
TO TOUCH IT.

SOMETHING IS WRONG.

THE ONLOOKERS GASP.

VOICE OF MARA  
QUICKLY, SOTTO  
VOCE, OFF MEGAPHONE,  
TO LON)

No, my Lord. You mustn't  
touch. Not yet.

LON: (OUT LOUD) Why mustn't  
I?

(VOICE OF MARA,  
BACK ON MEGAPHONE,  
BUT BUSKING IT)

VOICE OF MARA: The Crystal of  
knowledge has hidden depths.

LON: (CONTEMPTUOUS) What  
'hidden depths'!!! Where  
are they? Show them to  
me! It's just a fake.  
Your whole ceremony is a  
fake. Look!

(WRENCHES MOCK  
CRYSTAL OUT OF  
THE MOUTH HOLDS  
IT UP.

ONLOOKER REACTION:  
WHAT'S GOING ON?)

Look. It's nothing. It's  
just glass.

(HE THROWS IT TO  
THE GROUND AND  
IT SMASHES)

29. INT. CAVE. (JUST INSIDE ENTRANCE)

(THE DOCTOR AND  
CHELA STAND  
SLIGHTLY APART,  
WAITING WHILST  
THE BODYGUARD  
COMES TOWARDS  
THEM, VERY  
SLOWLY, TOO  
SLOWLY FOR THE  
DOCTOR)

THE DOCTOR: (UNDER HIS BREATH.  
IMPATIENTLY) Come on. Come  
on. Hurry up.

(THE BODYGUARD  
APPROACHES,  
DRAWING HIS  
SWORD)

30. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER)

LON: A childish fake at the centre of a farce, created by a civilisation that has gone soft!

(GOES OVER TO  
AMBRIL)

Today, I bring real knowledge.  
Real knowledge and real power.  
(TO AMBRIL) Give it to me!

(THE CHEST)

AMBRIL: (DEMURRING, FEEBLY)  
My lord, I really do think -

LON: Give it to me!

(TANHA PUTS HER  
HAND ON THE  
CHEST)

TANHA: Lon! No! Please!  
What's wrong with you! I  
didn't know.

LON: Mother, let go!

TANHA: No.

(LON TAKES GLOVE OFF  
AND HOLDS OUT THE  
HAND WITH THE MARK OF  
THE MARA. TANHA SEES,  
APPALLED)

Lon, what is that?

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LON: Give me the Great  
Crystal. Now!

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31. INT. CAVE. (INSIDE ENTRANCE) DAY.

THE DOCTOR:    Now!

(THE DOCTOR AND  
NYSSA ATTEMPT  
THE SAME TRICK  
THEY TRIED  
EARLIER.

THIS TIME THE  
BODYGUARD  
ANTICIPATES THEM  
AND THEY ARE BOTH  
THROWN AGAINST THE  
WALL.

THE BODYGUARD RAISES  
HIS SWORD AND ADVANCES  
ON THE DOCTOR.

QUICKLY, CHELA SEES  
HIS CHANCE, STEPS  
BEHIND THE BODYGUARD  
AND LIGHTLY PRESSES  
A BULGING MUSCLE ON  
HIS NECK.

INSTANTLY THE GUARD  
COLLAPSES.

CHELA LOOKS SURPRISED)

You left that a little late.

CHELA:    I've never done that  
before.

(ON THE DOCTOR:  
HORRIFIED)

I wasn't certain it would work.

32. INT. CAVE. (MAIN CHAMBER)

(LON WALKS OVER TO  
THE BAS-RELIEF,  
HOLDING UP THE  
GREAT CRYSTAL)

LON: Now listen to me.  
All of you. I hold in  
my hands the Great Crystal.  
The Great Crystal that was  
removed from its socket by  
my ancestor, when the Mara  
was banished to the Dark  
Places of the Inside. Now,  
after five hundred years,  
the Mara has returned. It  
is fitting that it should  
be I who restores the Great  
Crystal to its rightful owner.

(HE PRESSES THE  
HIDDEN LEVER, THE  
ROCK PANEL RUMBLES  
BACK, REVEALING  
TEGAN AND DUGDALE,  
FEATURES, GORGED,  
DISTORTED GROTESQUE.

SHE HOLDS UP HER ARM  
ENCASED IN SNAKE.

ONLOOKER REACTION.

LON HOLDS THE CRYSTAL  
UP TO THE SOCKET IN  
THE BAS-RELIEF.

HE HESITATES)

TEGAN: (TO LON) Go on! Why  
do you hesitate! Do it now!

(LON REACHES UP  
TO PLACE THE  
CRYSTAL IN THE  
SOCKET.

THE DOCTOR, WHO'S  
JUST ARRIVED AT  
THE BACK OF THE  
CROWD, SHOUTS AT  
THE TOP OF HIS  
VOICE)

THE DOCTOR: No! No! (cont ...)

(LON IGNORES THE  
CRY.

AND PLACES THE  
CRYSTAL IN THE  
SOCKET - FOR A  
MOMENT NOTHING  
HAPPENS THEN:

ENERGY LINES  
(CONCEALED  
FLUORESCENT  
TUBES IN THE  
'ROCK WALL'?)  
LIGHT UP,  
BETWEEN THE  
CRYSTAL AND  
THE DOORWAY, IN  
WHICH TEGAN STANDS.

(REF: PICTOGRAM)

SHE IS FRAMED BY  
THEM.

THEY PULSE, GETTING  
PROGRESSIVELY  
BRIGHTER.

ACCOMPANIED BY A  
LOW BELLY-BASE  
SOUND, GETTING  
LOUDER UNTIL  
FOR THE PEOPLE IN  
THE CHAMBER IT  
BECOMES INTOLERABLY  
LOUD.



IN THE CHAMBER:  
PANDEMONIUM AS  
PEOPLE PUT HANDS  
OVER EARS TO  
TRY AND SHUT OUT  
THE SOUND.

TRY TO FLEE.

PANIC.

FALL OVER.

CHAIRS KICKED  
OVER.

SINGLES OF AMBRIL  
TANHA, THE CEREMONIAL  
SNAKE AS THE PERSON  
INSIDE IT STRUGGLES  
TO GET OUT.

BUT PEOPLE IN TURN  
SUCCUMB TO THE  
EFFECTS OF THE  
SOUND.

THEY SINK TO THE  
GROUND: ALL UNABLE  
TO RESIST LOOKING  
BACK TOWARDS TEGAN.

TEGAN EXULTS.

THE SNAKE BEGINS  
TO DETACH ITSELF  
FROM HER ARM AND  
STARTS, RAPIDLY  
TO GROW.

LON JOINS TEGAN  
AND DUGDALE, HIS  
FEATURES SUDDENLY  
GROTESQUE, LIKE  
DUGDALE, HIS OWN  
PERSONALITY TAKEN  
OVER BY THE POWER  
OF THE MARA.

THE DOCTOR SHOUTS  
TO CHELA AND NYSSA  
AT HIS SIDE)

THE DOCTOR: (cont) Don't look. You must not look. The Mara is feeding off the Fear and the Panic. It needs it. You must not believe what is happening. The Crystal is absorbing the belief, and creating the Mara. Be still! Reach into yourselves, and find the Still Point!

(BUT CHELA AND THEN  
NYSSA SUCCUMB.

EVERYONE IN THE  
CHAMBER, FROM THEIR  
VARIOUS POSITIONS,  
STARES, BLANK-EYED,  
MESMORISED, TOWARDS  
TEGAN.

THE SOUND DIES AWAY.

TEGAN TURNS TO FACE  
THE SNAKE'S HEAD NEXT  
TO HER.

IT IS LARGE AND AWFUL.

SHE TURNS BACK, AND  
SEES ALL THE EYES,  
BLANK, LOOKING UP  
AT HER.

THEN TEGAN'S HEAD  
AND THE SNAKE'S HEAD,  
SIDE BY SIDE.

THE IMAGES BEGIN  
TO "RACE", UNTIL  
THE SNAKE'S HEAD  
IS DOMINATE.

IT OPENS ITS MOUTH.

INSIDE IS TEGAN'S  
HEAD, GROTESQUELY  
DISTORTED.

THE IMAGE FILLS  
THE SCREEN,  
PULSING GENTLY.

SOMETHING IS  
WRONG.

THE IMAGE OF THE  
SNAKE  
DISTORTS.

TEGAN FURIOUS,  
OUT OF THE SNAKE'S  
MOUTH)

TEGAN: What is happening!  
Who dares to interrupt the  
Becoming! Who does not  
believe?

(THE DOCTORS WHO  
ALONE, IS STILL  
STANDING, AND  
NOT LOOKING AT  
TEGAN BUT GAZING  
INTO THE CRYSTAL  
HE HAS REMOVED FROM  
HIS NECK)

Submit! All minds must  
submit. Look at me! You  
must look at me! You cannot  
resist. It is impossible.  
(cont ...)

(AND HE STEPS FORWARD  
SLOWLY, CAREFUL TO  
LIFT HIS FEET OVER  
THE PEOPLE ON THE  
GROUND.

HE STILL GAZES  
INTO THE CRYSTAL.

TEGAN THEN CLOCKS  
THE CRYSTAL AND  
ROARS)

TEGAN: (cont) (REALISING)  
No! (TO DUGDALE AND LON)  
Stop him. He must be  
stopped.

(LON AND DUGDALE  
ADVANCE SLOWLY.

TEGAN: V.O. CHANGING  
TACK.

PLAINTIVE, CHILDLIKE,  
BUT HIDEOUSLY DISTORTED)

'Help me, Doctor. What's  
happening to me? Oh please.  
Help me'. Please look,  
Doctor. I need your help.

(THE DOCTOR RESISTS,  
AS THOUGH INVISIBLE  
HANDS ARE TRYING TO  
TWIST HIS HEAD TO  
FACE TEGAN)

THE DOCTOR: (SCREAMS) No! I  
will not submit!

(SUDDENLY THE IMAGE  
OF HIS HEAD BEGINS  
TO "RACE" WITH THAT  
OF DOJJEN.

THERE IS A PAUSE.

THE CRYSTAL THE  
DOCTOR IS HOLDING  
BURNS BRIGHT BLUE *LOS*

IN IT WE SEE THE  
HEAD OF DOJJEN.

SLOWLY DOJJEN'S EYES  
OPEN)

TEGAN: (ROARS) No! The  
crystal. Destroy the crystal.  
It will prevent my Becoming!  
(cont ...)

DUGDALE LUMBERS  
FORWARD AND SNATCHES  
THE CRYSTAL.

BUT THE INSTANT HE  
TOUCHES, IT HE LETS  
ON A LOUD SCREAM  
AND COLLAPSES.

LON ATTEMPTS TO  
TACKLE THE  
DOCTOR, BUT HE  
SIDE STEPS HIM  
AND MAKES A LEAP  
FOR "THE GREAT  
CRYSTAL".

LON RUSHES AFTER  
HIM AND FLINGS  
HIMSELF ONTO THE  
DOCTOR'S ARM,  
AS IT REACHES UP  
AND GRASPS THE  
CRYSTAL.

BUT INSTEAD OF  
PREVENTING ITS  
REMOVAL, HIS ADDED  
WEIGHT, HELPS TO  
PULL IT FREE.

TEGAN SCREAMS AND  
THE SNAKE STARTS  
TO DISSOLVE, FLESH  
CRUMBLING, BODY  
FLUIDS SPURTING.

SUDDENLY IT  
COLLAPSES AND DISSOLVES.  
TEGAN, NOW PERFECTLY  
NORMAL, STANDS IN  
THE MIDDLE OF THE  
DEBRIS)

TEGAN: (cont) Doctor! (cont ...)

(SHE BURSTS INTO  
TEARS AND RUSHES  
FORWARD FLINGING  
HERSELF INTO THE  
DOCTOR'S ARMS)

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TEGAN: (SOBBING) It was  
awful! It was awful!

THE DOCTOR: (COMFORTING)  
It's all right. It's all  
over now.

TEGAN: The feelings of  
hate and rage. They were  
terrible! I wanted to  
destroy everything!

THE DOCTOR: You're free of it  
now.

TEGAN: It has gone forever?

THE DOCTOR: Yes. The Mara  
has been destroyed.

(TEGAN SOBS, BURYING  
HER FACE IN THE  
DOCTOR'S COAT.

HE CONTINUES TO  
COMFORT HER AS  
HIS EYES LOOK DOWN AT  
THE DEBRIS OF THE  
SNAKE)

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TELECINE 9:

Ext. Amongst the Rocks. Day.

DOJJEN slowly stands up,  
takes his staff, turns  
and goes.

33. EXT. THE MARKET. DAY.

(CHELA LEADS  
THE WAY.

BEHIND HIM,  
THE DOCTOR  
AND NYSSA.

TEGAN LAGS  
BEHIND)

THE DOCTOR: Tegan, come on.  
We mustn't keep them waiting.

TEGAN: Do we have to?

THE DOCTOR: Why not?

TEGAN: But it's different  
for you. You two are the  
heroes here. For me the  
whole thing is just very  
embarrassing, isn't it?  
How can I face them?  
After all, if it hadn't  
been for me -

THE DOCTOR: Nonsense.  
Don't you see, if you hadn't  
brought the Mara back here,  
it couldn't have been destroyed.

TEGAN: But -?

THE DOCTOR: The Snakedancers  
knew that the Mara could only  
be actually destroyed during  
the process of its Becoming.  
If it could be trapped between  
modes of being.



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NYSSA: Is that why Dojjen didn't destroy the Great Crystal? To lure the Mara?

THE DOCTOR: Partly. Yes. Which reminds me. Chela. (TAKES OFF PENDANT) Yours I believe. (HOLDS IT OUT) I hope you learn to make good use of it.

CHELA: Thank you. (TAKES IT)

(THEY ARRIVE AT THE FORTUNE TELLER'S BOOTH.

PEOPLE CLAP AS THE DOCTOR ETC. APPEAR.

A FORMAL PUBLIC THANK YOU.

AMONG THE PEOPLE CLAPPING REGISTER DUGDALE.

THE HEROES OF THE HOUR MAKE THEIR WAY TO WHERE AMBRIL, TANHA, AND LON ARE STANDING WAITING FOR THEM.

AMBRIL HOLDS UP HANDS FOR SILENCE.

THEN FORMALLY:)

AMBRIL: On behalf of the people of Manussa, third planet of the Foundation, I would like to extend to you our most heartfelt gratitude ...

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THE DOCTOR: Thank you.

CHELA: (PROMPTING AMBRIL)  
And?

AMBRIL: Do you think it's  
necessary?

CHELA: (FIRMLY) Yes I do.

AMBRIL: (TO THE DOCTOR)  
And, apparently, according to  
my assistant, I owe you a  
personal apology.

TANHA: Yes I rather think  
we all do. (TO LON:) Don't  
we?

LON: If you say so mother.

TANHA: Lon!

LON: (SIMPLY, TO THE DOCTOR)  
No Doctor I am very grateful to  
you, even though it did all get  
rather out of hand! But then,  
of course, if the Director had  
listened to you from the  
beginning ...

TANHA: (INTERRUPTS, REPROVING)  
Lon!

AMBRIL: No my lady your son  
is right. I should have kept  
an open mind.

(TURNS TO THE DOCTOR)

But you see, so many semi-  
educated cranks over the years,  
some of them even calling them-  
selves 'Doctor' -

CHELA: (INTERRUPTS) Doctor, what should we do with the Great Crystal?

THE DOCTOR: You have two choices. You could either bury it somewhere and then forget all about it. In the hope that it will be found, perhaps in thousands of years' time, by people who have in the meantime developed the wisdom to put it to proper use.

LON: Or -?

TEGAN: (INTERRUPTS. VEHEMENT) No. You must take no chances. Destroy it! Once and for all. So that never again ...

THE DOCTOR: Yes, that is the other choice.

LON: Tegan's right. What guarantee is there that people, even in thousands of years, will be any wiser than we were!

THE DOCTOR: What guarantee?

TEGAN: Yes.

THE DOCTOR: Absolutely none!

TANHA: Doctor, what do you think we should do?

THE DOCTOR: Oh, I wouldn't presume. (cont ...)

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(THE DOCTOR LOOKS  
AT THEM IN TURN  
THEN AT THE CROWD)

THE DOCTOR: (cont) The  
choice must be yours. All  
yours! You must be free  
to choose. Don't you think!

SUPPOSE CAM

Closing  
Credits:

FADE OUT

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